IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of   :

:

Höllig et al.   :   PATENT

:

Serial No.: 09/853,026   :   Group Art Unit: 2123

:

Filed: Herewith   :   Examiner:

:

For: PROCESS FOR INCREASING THE   :
       EFFICIENCY OF A COMPUTER IN   :
       INFINITE ELEMENT SIMULATIONS   :
       AND A COMPUTER FOR PERFORMING :
       THAT PROCESS   :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application, as follows:

In the Claims

4.   (Amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ß-splines with at least one grid cell of the support contained entirely in the simulation region (Ω) are classified as inner ß-splines.

5.   (Amended) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the weight point is chosen as the midpoint of a grid cell of the support of the corresponding B-spline, which is contained entirely in the simulation region.